Integrin Linked Kinase Expression In Human Valvular Endothelial Cells Plays A Protective Role In Calcific Aortic Valve Disease.

Sandra Sánchez Esteban[a], Paula Reventún, Mercedes Castro, Alberto Cook Calvete, María Delgado Marín, Lucía Benito, Ignacio Hernández, Jose López Menéndez, Carlos Zaragoza, Marta Saura

a. sandrasanchez07@hotmail.com

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Abstract

Calcific aortic valve disease (CAVD) is the most common valvular heart disease in the aging population.CAVD is a highly active ossification process originated in valvular interstitial cells which differentiate towards an osteoblastic phenotype. However, the role of valvular endothelial cells in CAVD has not been fully explored. We previously demonstrated that ILK expression in vascular endothelium plays an essential cardioprotective role. We hypothesize that endothelial ILK plays a protective role in human valvular endothelial cells osteogenesis.

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